

SUNDRY SELECTIONS.

MUST HAVE THE JOURNAL.

I must say that I could not do without the JOURNAL. I get a good "bee-feed" every time it comes. This year there were articles in it worth money to me and every bee-keeper.

Vankleek Hill.

BEKEE-KEEPING IN IRELAND.

W. DITTY.—I commenced the season with 14 bar frame hives and two skeps. I took 1,698 lbs. of extracted honey and 72 lbs. in sections, and have increased to twenty-two bar hives and still have two straw hives, besides selling two bar hives, losing three swarms, and rearing about a dozen queens. Extracted honey sells put up in 1-lb. jars at 9d. per lb. (jar included) wholesale, and retails at 1s. or 18 to 24 cents respectively. The one-lb. sections retail at 20c. and this year the producer got from 9 to 12 cents per lb., so that extracted is far more profitable. We winter all on the summer stands and rarely lose a colony.

Newtownard, Ireland, Nov. 25th, 1887.

NO TOP VENTILATION.

HECTOR MORRISON.—Have 110 colonies in the cellar. Have been reading in the JOURNAL the various plans of putting bees away and have followed the no-top ventilation plan. I took off the quilt, put cushions of sawdust on; piled them in tiers five high. Gave them a quarter of an inch space from the bottom board. They have ventilation that will draw the flame of a candle to a right angle, but no more ventilation than can steal in as best it can.

WANTS A CONVENTION NEAR OTTAWA.

I have read and re-read the notices of meetings of conventions and have always regretted my inability to attend any. I would like very much to have one somewhere near Ottawa, and would assist in getting one up before spring. This section of country is admirably adapted for bees. Three years ago I weighed a hive one morning, it went ten lbs. The evening of the second day it scaled twenty-three lbs. As I could not have the scales any longer I don't know how they increased in weight afterward. The best I took this season from one colony was ninety pounds and a very large swarm, but I had to feed some back as the flow shut off so soon.

BURYING BEES FOR WINTER WITH NEVER A SINGLE COLONY LOST.

T. L. MOORE.—In reply to your request through the JOURNAL I beg to state that on the 31st of October I put into my bee hall 100 colonies, and in a few days I shall put into the same place six colonies for my son. I have watched those in the bee house very closely nearly every day since I put them in and I find them perfectly quiet with the thermometer at 50°. By my system of ventilation the air inside of my bee house seems as pure as the outside, and I have no doubt but that my bees will winter well. In 1885 I put them in the same hall Nov. 20th, and in 1886 about Nov. 12th. Both years they wintered well. I sold a neighbor a swarm Nov. 1st out of the hall, which he took home and buried according to my directions, which course I pur-

sued for the first five years of my experience in the bee business, and as yet I have never lost a single colony in wintering.

Addison, Ont., Nov. 11th 1887.

Tell us how you buried them for the five years before you commenced putting them in your hall. Describe your hall fully and all your preparation and management both of burying and hall, and we will feel greatly obliged. Those who have been successful so long are in duty bound to let their fellow bee-keepers know all about their success.

PASSAGEWAYS OVER THE COMB.

SETH DOAN.—I have put in the cellar 12 colonies on the 11th Nov., and I want to tell you how I put them up, and wish to know whether or not my plan is right. I have partitioned off 10 x 17 ft., perfectly dark, and the entrances to the hives are left full width. I took empty rice sacks, and after washing them clean, sewed three thicknesses together and laid them over the tops of the frames. Should I have put pieces across the frames to allow the bees to crawl over the frames? My cellar has a little water in it in wet weather. The thermometer generally registers from 43° to 48°. Now, what should I have in the way of ventilators? If I should need to put on the top sticks under the quilts, would it not do to open the window and door some cold night, and when the bees get quite cold, put on the sticks?

The water in the bottom of your cellar will take up the carbonic acid gas. We do not think that you will require any ventilation for such a small number of colonies, but occasionally, when the weather is warm you might open the window and allow a little fresh air to get in. You could raise the quilts slightly and slip a stick under without allowing the bees to get too cold, in fact, even though the bees were there it would be better to slide the stick over the top of the frames, in among them, under the quilts, than it would be to make them too cold in order to get the stick in. We think they would winter alright without the stick, but you should have no difficulty in putting one in to raise the quilt about an inch in the centre. It would settle down on the frames not far on either side and leave a small passage each side of the stick for the bees to cross over from one frame to another.

A BEGINNER.

W. SHAW.—Am anxious to keep bees and learn how to do it. Have tried to gain instruction from neighboring apiarists but have been ordered away. Though a hired-man on a farm I can